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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

DISCUSSES ORGANIZATION AND CONDITIONS IN POLISH PRISONS

POLISH SECURITY POLICE USE GESTAPO METHODS -- Mannheim, Ostatnie Wiadomosci, 6 Sep 50

The Dziennik Polski, discussing the overcrowding of prisons in Poland, states that prisons there are completely under the jurisdiction of the UB (Security Police) offices. All of the wojewodztwo UB units are alike in organization. For example, the wojewodztwo UB in Katowice is divided into six divisions whose scope of activity covers the following: (1) fighting banditry, which includes underground organizations, (2) fighting economic sabotage, (3) stamping out misuse of authority, (4) combating sabotage, (5) prisons, and (6) counterintelligence.

The director of the Katowice UB organization is Lieutenant Colonel Kratky, a Czech by birth. Under the jurisdiction of the UB in Katowice are: seven criminal and interrogation prisons for men located in Katowice, Gliwice, Zabrze, Bytom, Raciborz, Opole, and Kozle; one women's prison in Rybnik; and a special isolation prison in Raciborz.

There are approximately 2,000 persons serving long-term sentences in the Raciborz prison. Death sentences are also carried out here. Captain Morel has charge of the prison, and Kryczais his deputy on political affairs.

The Jawor prison offers a typical example of the methods used by the UB in dealing with the prisoners. This prison has approximately 1,000 prisoners. The managerial functions are carried out exclusively by sadists, most of whom are drunken young UB officers. Hearings, held exclusively during the night, are carried on under powerful reflectors focused directly into the eyes of the prisoners. Methods used to torture and beat prisoners are equal to those used by the Gestapo. Filth and hunger prevail. Prisoners are used for heavy physical labor, in accordance with the announcement of Minister of Public Security Radkiewicz that prisoners would have to work for the construction of the basis of socialism in Poland.

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SOVIETS HELP REORGANIZE PRISONS AND CAMPS -- Munich, Slowo Katolickie, 28 May 50

Nearly 10 million persons pass through Soviet prisons each year. In 1949, the USSR had 11,760 prisons and concentration camps. By the end of 1949, countries behind the iron curtain already had their own network of such camps. Poland had 670, Bulgaria 48, Czechoslovakia 53, Rumania 115, Hungary 43, and Albania 24.

In 1950, Soviet specialists arrived in the Satellite countries to reorganize prisons, concentration camps and labor camps according to a uniform system. Directors of these prisons are Communists trained in Soviet prisons.

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